

# **“NEIGHBORHOODS THAT WORK”**

**Award Recipients, 2001**

## **Ward 5 – Ed Adkison**

### **Category 2: Presidente Estates Neighborhood Watch ( Block Captain: Phyllis Wells)**

Presidente Estates Neighborhood Watch is located in the Arlington neighborhood and bordered by Magnolia Avenue, Roosevelt, Myers, and Primrose. Eight years ago the neighborhood was plagued by an intimidating drug house. The neighbors, tired of watching elementary school-aged kids being pulled into drug activity, rose up and did something. They filed a Safe Streets Now action against the property owner and met with the Mayor and police chief to see what could be done. As a result of four months of diligent work, 15 arrests were made out of the house and the tenants evicted. Since then, the group has met regularly to discuss not only crime issues but all neighborhood issues such as community development projects and neighborhood revitalization. They are a very close-knit neighborhood and many residents have lived there for many years.

## **Ward 6 – Terri Thomspon**

### **Category 2: Friends of Myra Linn**

The neighbors surrounding Myra Linn park, with support from Park and Recreation and RPD's "Operation Safe Parks" program, were able to make dramatic changes in the park and in the process neighbors are connecting, getting to know each other, and are better able to access city services. This neighborhood group helped put on a National Night Out event at the park on August 4 that was very well attended by the neighborhood and sent a message that the neighborhood was united against crime. The residents' efforts were detailed in an editorial which appeared in the Press Enterprise on October 1, 2001. Friends of Myra Linn hope to resume a tradition of regular block parties and hold regular meetings to prioritize neighborhood issues and strategize solutions.